

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 ATHENS 04881 241600Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 /020 W
-----242345Z 023514 /65

R 241414Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 810
USDOC WASHDC
INFO AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI

UNCLAS ATHENS 4881

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: BENC, EMIN, GR
SUBJECT: MAJOR PROJECT: DEVELOPMENT OF EPIRUS PHOSPHATE DEPOSITS

REF: (A) ATHENS 0780, (B) STATE 007121, (C) 76 ATHENS 13031

BUREAU OF MINES FOR SONDERMAYER AND JOSEPHSON

1. INDUSTRY AND ENERGY MINISTER KONOPHAGOS HAS INFORMED EMBASSY THAT DEVELOPMENT OF EPIRUS PHOSPHATE DEPOSITS IS OF PRIME IMPORTANCE TO GREEK ECONOMY AND THEREFORE MINISTRY IS GIVING PRIORITY TO COMPLETE EVALUATION OF DEPOSITS. MINISTER KONOPHAGOS HAS FURTHER INFORMED EMBASSY THAT PHOSPHATE DEPOSITS ARE ESTIMATED TO EXCEED ONE BILLION TONS. THEIR PHOSPHORUS PENTOXIDE (P2O5) CONTENT IS FIVE TO TWENTY PERCENT. PHOSPHATES ARE OF MICROCRYSTALLIC TEXTURE CONTAINING CALCITE AND BENEFICIATION WILL THEREFORE PRESENT A PROBLEM. MINISTRY WOULD WELCOME PROPOSALS FROM AMERICAN COMPANIES EXPERIENCED IN BENEFICIATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF SIMILAR DEPOSITS. PROPOSALS SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO GENERAL DIRECTOR OF MINES, MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND ENERGY, 80 MICHALAKOPOULOU STREET, ATHENS 611.

2. EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS MINISTRY IS CONTINUING EXPORATION WORK THROUGH THE INSTITUTE OF GEOLOGICAL AND MINERAL RESEARCH (IGME)
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(REF A) WHICH IS ALSO CONDUCTING LABORATORY TESTING FOR BENEFICIATION METHOD WITH IGME SCIENTISTS REPORTEDLY BEING ASSISTED BY OECD EXPERT AND FRENCH PROFESSOR.

3. EMBASSY BELIEVES DEVELOPMENT EPIRUS PHOSPHATE DEPOSITS PRESENTS GOOD INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY FOR AMERICAN COMPANIES. ALTHOUGH DEFINITE PLANS HAVE NOT YET BEEN FORMULATED BY MINISTRY

CONCERNING WAYS AND MEANS FOR ACCOMPLISHMENT THIS MAJOR PROJECT,
EMBASSY BELIEVES INTERESTED AMERICAN COMPANIES SHOULD MAKE THEIR
INTEREST KNOWN. SPECIFIC PROPOSALS MAY BE SUBMITTED TO THE MINISTRY
EVEN AT THIS EARLY STAGE. EMBASSY SUGGESTS THAT COPIES OF ANY
SUCH COMMUNICATIONS BE ALSO SENT TO EMBASSY COMMERCIAL
ATTACHE FOR FOLLOW UP PURPOSES.
KUBISCH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NATURAL RESOURCES, PHOSPHATES, MINERALS, MINING INDUSTRY, PROPOSALS (BID)
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 24-May-1977 12:00:00 am
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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Format: TEL
From: ATHENS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MAJOR PROJECT: DEVELOPMENT OF EPIRUS PHOSPHATE DEPOSITS
TAGS: BENC, EMIN, GR, US
To: STATE COM
Type: TE
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